

# EXHIBIT C

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION**

**BLAKE PRESENT**

**V.**

**THE TRAVELERS HOME AND  
MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY  
AND RUSH ELLEDGE SUESSMAN**

§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:17-CV-2800**

**DEFENDANT'S NOTICE OF REMOVAL  
EXHIBIT C: COPIES OF PLEADINGS ASSERTING  
CAUSES OF ACTION AND ALL ANSWERS TO SUCH PLEADINGS**

TO THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE:

COMES NOW, The Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company, a defendant in the above entitled and numbered cause, and files copies of all pleadings asserting causes of action and all answers to such pleadings as required by Local Rule 81.2.



## Notice of Service of Process

CHS / ALL  
Transmittal Number: 17053148  
Date Processed: 08/24/2017

**Primary Contact:** Pamela Beyer  
The Travelers Companies, Inc.  
385 Washington Street, 9275-LC12L  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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<b>Entity:</b>	The Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company Entity ID Number 2317358
<b>Entity Served:</b>	The Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company
<b>Title of Action:</b>	Blake Present vs. The Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company
<b>Document(s) Type:</b>	Citation/Petition
<b>Nature of Action:</b>	Contract
<b>Court/Agency:</b>	Fort Bend County District Court, Texas
<b>Case/Reference No:</b>	17-DCV-244353
<b>Jurisdiction Served:</b>	Texas
<b>Date Served on CSC:</b>	08/23/2017
<b>Answer or Appearance Due:</b>	10:00 am Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after service
<b>Originally Served On:</b>	CSC
<b>How Served:</b>	Certified Mail
<b>Sender Information:</b>	Andrew Taylor 713-655-1405

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Information contained on this transmittal form is for record keeping, notification and forwarding the attached document(s). It does not constitute a legal opinion. The recipient is responsible for interpreting the documents and taking appropriate action.

**To avoid potential delay, please do not send your response to CSC**

251 Little Falls Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19808-1674 (888) 690-2882 | [sop@cscglobal.com](mailto:sop@cscglobal.com)

**SERVICE FEE COLLECTED  
BY DISTRICT CLERK**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**CITATION**

**TO: THE TRAVELERS HOME AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY  
THROUGH ITS RA, CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY  
211 EAST 7TH STREET SUITE 620  
AUSTIN TX 78701-3218**

**NOTICE:**

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and **PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION** filed on **AUGUST 17, 2017**, a default judgment may be taken against you.

The case is presently pending before the **400TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT** of Fort Bend County sitting in Richmond, Texas. It bears cause number **17-DCV-244353** and is styled:

**BLAKE PRESENT VS. THE TRAVELERS HOME AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY AND RUSH  
ELLEDGE SUESSMAN**

The name and address of the attorney for **PLAINTIFF** is:

**ANDREW TAYLOR  
DALY & BLACK PC  
2211 NORFOLK ST SUITE 800  
HOUSTON TX 77098  
713-655-1405**

The nature of the demands of said **PLAINTIFF** is shown by a true and correct copy of the **PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION** accompanying this citation and made a part hereof.

If this Citation is not served, it shall be returned unserved. Issued under my hand and seal of said Court, at Richmond, Texas, **on this the 21st day of August, 2017.**

**ANNIE REBECCA ELLIOTT, DISTRICT CLERK  
FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS**

Physical Address:

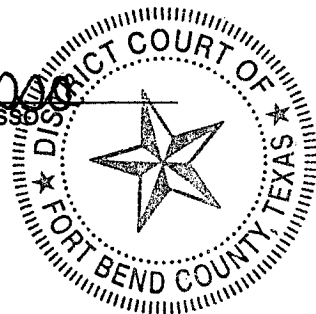
1422 Eugene Heimann Circle, Room 10142  
Richmond, Texas 77469

Mailing Address:

301 Jackson Street  
Richmond, Texas 77469

By: \_\_\_\_\_

*Salena Jasso*  
Deputy District Clerk **SALENA M. JASSO**  
Telephone: (281) 341-3787



**SERVICE**

17-DCV-244353

400th Judicial District Court

Blake Present vs. The Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company and Rush Elledge Suessman

**CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY BY CERTIFIED MAIL**

Came to hand on the \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock and executed \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, on the \_\_\_\_\_, by delivering to the within named \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ by registered or certified mail, with delivery - restricted to addressee only, return receipt  
requested, a true copy of this citation together with the accompanying copy of the petition were attached thereto.

Fee..... **\$8.00 Issuance + \$80.00 Service = \$88.00**

**CMRRR# 9414 7266 9904 2089-9251 56**

DISTRICT CLERK ANNIE REBECCA ELLIOTT  
Fort Bend County, Texas

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy District Clerk **Salena M Jasso**

**COMPLETE IF YOU ARE A PERSON OTHER THAN A SHERIFF, CONSTABLE, OR CLERK OF THE COURT.**

In accordance with Rule 107: The officer or authorized person who serves, or attempts to serve, a citation shall sign the return. The signature is not required to be verified. If the return is signed by a person other than a sheriff, constable, or the clerk of the court, the return shall be signed under penalty of perjury and contain the following statement:

"My name is \_\_\_\_\_, my date of birth is \_\_\_\_\_  
(First, Middle, Last)

\_\_\_\_\_, and my address is \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street, City, Zip)

I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Executed in \_\_\_\_\_ County, State of \_\_\_\_\_,

on the day of \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Declarant / Authorized Process Server

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Id # & expiration of certification)

**SERVICE**

Citation (By Certified Mail) issued to The Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company on 8/21/2017.

CAUSE NO. 17-DCV-244353

BLAKE PRESENT	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
	§	
Plaintiff	§	
	§	
vs.	§	
	§	FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS
THE TRAVELERS HOME AND	§	
MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY	§	
AND RUSH ELLEDGE SUESSMAN	§	Fort Bend County - 400th Judicial District Court
	§	_____ JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Defendants		

**PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION**

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

Blake Present ("Mr. Present"), Plaintiff herein, files this Original Petition against Defendants The Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company ("Travelers") and Rush Elledge Suessman ("Suessman") and, in support of his causes of action, would respectfully show the Court the following:

**I.**  
**THE PARTIES**

1. Blake Present is a Texas resident who resides in Fort Bend County, Texas.
2. Travelers is an insurance company doing business in the State of Texas which may be served through its registered agent for service of process in the State of Texas, Corporation Service Company, via certified mail at 211 East 7th Street, Suite 620, Austin, TX 78701-3218.
3. Rush Elledge Suessman is a Texas resident who participated in adjusting Mr. Present's insurance claim, and may be served via certified mail at 4650 Westway Park Blvd, Ste. 350, Houston, TX 77041.

**II.**  
**DISCOVERY**

4. This case is intended to be governed by Discovery Level 2.

**III.**  
**CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

5. The damages sought are within the jurisdictional limits of this court. Plaintiff currently seeks monetary relief over \$100,000 but not more than \$200,000, including damages of any kind, penalties, costs, expenses, pre-judgment interest, and attorney's fees. However, to the extent that Defendants refuse to cooperate in discovery, make frivolous and unwarranted objections, file needless motions, quash depositions and discovery requests without a reasonable basis, assert unjustified or false affirmative defenses, make unwarranted special exceptions, hire individuals they claim to be "experts" who give false opinions or testimony, produce witnesses who commit perjury, conduct excessive discovery, or otherwise needlessly delay litigation, the costs, expenses, interest, and attorney's fees will likely be over \$200,000 but not more than \$1,000,000.

**IV.**  
**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

6. This court has subject matter jurisdiction of this cause of action because it involves an amount in controversy in excess of the minimum jurisdictional limits of this Court. No diversity of citizenship exists in this matter.

7. Venue is proper in Fort Bend County under Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code §15.002(a)(1) because all or a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in Fort Bend County. In particular, the loss at issue occurred in Fort Bend County.

**V.**  
**FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

8. Mr. Present is a named insured under a property insurance policy issued by Travelers.

9. On or about January 7, 2017 a storm hit the Missouri City, Texas area, damaging Mr. Present's house and other property. Mr. Present subsequently filed a claim on his insurance policy.

10. Defendants improperly denied and/or underpaid the claim.

11. Suessman was assigned as an individual adjuster on the claim, conducted a substandard investigation and inspection of the property, prepared a report that failed to include all of the damages noted during the inspection, and undervalued the damages observed during the inspection.

12. Suessman's unreasonable investigation led to the underpayment of Plaintiff's claim.

13. Moreover, Travelers and Suessman performed an outcome-oriented investigation of Plaintiff's claim, which resulted in a biased, unfair and inequitable evaluation of Plaintiff's losses on the property.

**VI.**  
**CAUSES OF ACTION**

14. Each of the foregoing paragraphs is incorporated by reference in the following:

**A. Breach of Contract (Travelers Only)**

15. Travelers had a contract of insurance with Plaintiff. Travelers breached the terms of that contract by wrongfully denying and/or underpaying the claim and Plaintiff was damaged thereby.



**B. Prompt Payment of Claims Statute (Travelers Only)**

16. The failure of Travelers to pay for the losses and/or to follow the statutory time guidelines for accepting or denying coverage constitutes a violation of Article 542.051 *et seq.* of the Texas Insurance Code.

17. Plaintiff, therefore, in addition to Plaintiff's claim for damages, is entitled to 18% interest and attorneys' fees as set forth in Article 542.060 of the Texas Insurance Code.

**C. Bad Faith/DTPA (Travelers and Suessman)**

18. Defendants are required to comply with Chapter 541 of the Texas Insurance Code.

19. Defendants violated § 541.051 of the Texas Insurance Code by:

(1) making statements misrepresenting the terms and/or benefits of the policy.

20. Defendants violated § 541.060 by:

(1) misrepresenting to Plaintiff a material fact or policy provision relating to coverage at issue;

(2) failing to attempt in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement of a claim with respect to which the insurer's liability had become reasonably clear;

(3) failing to promptly provide to Plaintiff a reasonable explanation of the basis in the policy, in relation to the facts or applicable law, for the insurer's denial of a claim or offer of a compromise settlement of a claim;

(4) failing within a reasonable time to affirm or deny coverage of a claim to Plaintiff or submit a reservation of rights to Plaintiff; and

(5) refusing to pay the claim without conducting a reasonable investigation with respect to the claim;

21. Defendants violated § 541.061 by:

- (1) making an untrue statement of material fact;
- (2) failing to state a material fact necessary to make other statements made not misleading considering the circumstances under which the statements were made;
- (3) making a statement in a manner that would mislead a reasonably prudent person to a false conclusion of a material fact;
- (4) making a material misstatement of law; and
- (5) failing to disclose a matter required by law to be disclosed.

22. At all material times hereto, Plaintiff was a consumer who purchased insurance products and services from Defendants.

23. Defendants have violated the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act in the following respects:

- (1) Defendants represented that the agreement confers or involves rights, remedies, or obligations which it does not have, or involve, or which are prohibited by law;

- (2) Travelers failed to disclose information concerning goods or services which was known at the time of the transaction when such failure to disclose such information was intended to induce the consumer into a transaction that the consumer would not have entered into had the information been disclosed;

- (3) Travelers, by accepting insurance premiums but refusing without a reasonable basis to pay benefits due and owing, engaged in an unconscionable action or course of action as prohibited by the DTPA § 17.50(a)(1)(3) in that Travelers took advantage of Plaintiff's lack of knowledge, ability, experience, and capacity to a grossly unfair degree, that also resulted in a gross disparity between the consideration paid in the transaction and the value received, in violation of Chapter 541 of the Insurance Code.

24. Defendants knowingly committed the acts complained of. As such, Plaintiff is entitled to exemplary and/or treble damages pursuant to the DTPA and Texas Insurance Code § 541.152(a)-(b).

**D. Attorneys' Fees**

25. Plaintiff engaged the undersigned attorney to prosecute this lawsuit against Defendants and agreed to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses through trial and any appeal.

26. Plaintiff is entitled to reasonable and necessary attorney's fees pursuant to TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE §§ 38.001-38.003 because he is represented by an attorney, presented the claim to Defendants, and Defendants did not tender the just amount owed before the expiration of the 30<sup>th</sup> day after the claim was presented.

27. Plaintiff further prays that he be awarded all reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in prosecuting his causes of action through trial and any appeal pursuant to Sections 541.152 542.060 of the Texas Insurance Code.

**VII.  
CONDITIONS PRECEDENT**

28. All conditions precedent to Plaintiff's right to recover have been fully performed, or have been waived by Defendants.

**VIII.  
DISCOVERY REQUESTS**

29. Pursuant to Rule 194, you are requested to disclose, within fifty (50) days after service of this request, the information or material described in Rule 194.2(a)-(1).

30. You are also requested to respond to the attached interrogatories, requests for production and requests for admissions within fifty (50) days, in accordance with the instructions stated therein.

**IX.**  
**PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Blake Present prays that, upon final hearing of the case, he recover all damages from and against Defendants that may reasonably be established by a preponderance of the evidence, and that Mr. Present be awarded attorneys' fees through trial and appeal, costs of court, pre-judgment interest, post-judgment interest, and such other and further relief, general or special, at law or in equity, to which Mr. Present may show himself to be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

**DALY & BLACK, P.C.**

By: /s/ Andrew Taylor  
Richard D. Daly  
TBA No. 00796429  
[rdaly@dalyblack.com](mailto:rdaly@dalyblack.com)  
[ecfs@dalyblack.com](mailto:ecfs@dalyblack.com)  
Andrew Taylor  
TBA No. 24070723  
[ataylor@dalyblack.com](mailto:ataylor@dalyblack.com)  
2211 Norfolk St., Suite 800  
Houston, Texas 77098  
713.655.1405—Telephone  
713.655.1587—Fax

**ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF**  
**BLAKE PRESENT**

**PLAINTIFF'S FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES,  
REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION AND REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS**

COMES NOW Plaintiff in the above-styled and numbered cause, and requests that Defendant(s) (1) answer the following Interrogatories separately and fully in writing under oath within 50 days of service; (2) answer the Requests for Production separately and fully in writing within 50 days of service; (3) answer the Requests for Admissions separately and fully in writing within 50 days of service; (4) serve your answers to these Interrogatories, Requests for Production, and Requests for Admissions on Plaintiff by and through his/her attorneys of record, Daly & Black, P.C., 2211 Norfolk St, Suite 800, Houston, Texas 77098; and (5) produce all documents responsive to the Requests for Production as they are kept in the usual course of business or organized and labeled to correspond to the categories in the requests within 50 days of service at the Daly & Black, P.C. You are also advised that you are under a duty to seasonably amend your responses if you obtain information on the basis of which:

- a. You know the response made was incorrect or incomplete when made; or
- b. You know the response, though correct and complete when made, is no longer true and complete, and the circumstances are such that a failure to amend the answer in substance is misleading.

Respectfully submitted,

**DALY & BLACK, P.C.**

By: /s/ Andrew Taylor  
Richard D. Daly  
TBA No. 00796429  
[rdaly@dalyblack.com](mailto:rdaly@dalyblack.com)  
[ecfs@dalyblack.com](mailto:ecfs@dalyblack.com)  
Andrew Taylor  
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2211 Norfolk St., Suite 800  
Houston, Texas 77098  
713.655.1405—Telephone  
713.655.1587—Fax

**ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF  
BLAKE PRESENT**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I sent a true and correct copy of the attached discovery requests to Defendant(s) as an attachment to the petition. Therefore, Defendant would have received it when it was served with the citation.

/s/ Andrew Taylor  
Andrew Taylor

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- A. These Responses call for your personal and present knowledge, as well as the present knowledge of your attorneys, investigators and other agents, and for information available to you and to them.
- B. Pursuant to the applicable rules of civil procedure, produce all documents responsive to these Requests for Production as they are kept in the usual course of business or organized and labeled to correspond to the categories in the requests within the time period set forth above at Daly & Black, P.C.
- C. If you claim that any document or information which is required to be identified or produced by you in any response is privileged, produce a privilege log according to the applicable rules of civil procedure.
  - 1. Identify the document's title and general subject matter;
  - 2. State its date;
  - 3. Identify all persons who participated in its preparation;
  - 4. Identify the persons for whom it was prepared or to whom it was sent;
  - 5. State the nature of the privilege claimed; and
  - 6. State in detail each and every fact upon which you base your claim for privilege.
- D. If you claim that any part or portion of a document contains privileged information, redact only the part(s) or portion(s) of the document you claim to be privileged.
- E. If you cannot answer a particular Interrogatory in full after exercising due diligence to secure the information to do so, please state so and answer to the extent possible, specifying and explaining your inability to answer the remainder and stating whatever information or knowledge you have concerning the unanswered portion.
- F. You are also advised that you are under a duty to seasonably amend your responses if you obtain information on the basis of which:
  - 1. You know the response made was incorrect or incomplete when made; or
  - 2. You know the response, though correct and complete when made, is no longer true and complete, and the circumstances

**DEFINITIONS**

- A. **“Defendant,” “You,” “Your(s),”** refers to The Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company, its agents, representatives, employees and any other entity or person acting on its behalf.
- B. **“Plaintiff”** refers to the named Plaintiff in the above-captioned suit.
- C. **“The Property(ies)”** refers to the property or properties located at the address covered by the Policy.
- D. **“The Policy”** refers to the policy issued to Plaintiff by the insurer and at issue in this lawsuit.
- E. **“The Claim(s)”** means the claim for insurance benefits submitted by Plaintiff and at issue in this lawsuit, or in a prior claim, as the context may dictate.
- F. **“Date of Loss”** refers to the date(s) of loss identified in Plaintiff’s live petition/complaint or other written or oral notice, or otherwise assigned to the claim by the insurer.
- G. **“Handle”** or **“Handled”** means investigating, adjusting, supervising, estimating, managing, settling, approving, supplying information or otherwise performing a task or work with respect to the claim(s) at issue in this lawsuit, excluding purely ministerial or clerical tasks.
- H. **“Lawsuit”** refers to the above styled and captioned case.
- I. **“Communication”** or **“communications”** shall mean and refer to the transmission or exchange of information, either orally or in writing, and includes without limitation any conversation, letter, handwritten notes, memorandum, inter or intraoffice correspondence, electronic mail, text messages, or any other electronic transmission, telephone call, telegraph, telex telecopy, facsimile, cable, conference, tape recording, video recording, digital recording, discussion, or face-to-face communication.
- J. The term **“Document”** shall mean all tangible things and data, however stored, as set forth in the applicable rules of civil procedure, including, but not limited to all original writings of any nature whatsoever, all prior drafts, all identical copies, all nonidentical copies, correspondence, notes, letters, memoranda of telephone conversations, telephone messages or call slips, interoffice memoranda, intraoffice memoranda, client conference reports, files, agreements, contracts, evaluations, analyses, records, photographs sketches, slides, tape recordings, microfiche, communications, printouts, reports, invoices, receipts, vouchers, profit and loss statements, accounting ledgers, loan documents, liens, books of accounting, books of operation, bank statements, cancelled checks, leases, bills of sale, maps, prints, insurance policies, appraisals, listing agreements, real estate closing documents, studies, summaries, minutes, notes,



agendas, bulletins, schedules, diaries, calendars, logs, announcements, instructions, charts, manuals, brochures, schedules, price lists, telegrams, teletypes, photographic matter, sound reproductions, however recorded, whether still on tape or transcribed to writing, computer tapes, diskettes, disks, all other methods or means of storing data, and any other documents. In all cases where originals, prior drafts, identical copies, or nonidentical copies are not available; "document" also means genuine, true and correct photo or other copies of originals, prior drafts, identical copies, or nonidentical copies. "Document" also refers to any other material, including without limitation, any tape, computer program or electronic data storage facility in or on which any data or information has been written or printed or has been temporarily or permanently recorded by mechanical, photographic, magnetic, electronic or other means, and including any materials in or on which data or information has been recorded in a manner which renders in unintelligible without machine processing.

- K. The term "**referring**" or "**relating**" shall mean showing, disclosing, averting to, comprising, evidencing, constituting or reviewing.
- L. The singular and masculine form of any noun or pronoun includes the plural, the feminine, and the neuter.
- M. The terms "**identification**," "**identify**," and "**identity**" when used in reference to:
  1. **Natural Persons:** Means to state his or her full name, residential address, present or last known business address and telephone number, and present or last known position and business affiliation with you;
  2. **Corporate Entities:** Means to state its full name and any other names under which it does business, its form or organization, its state of incorporation, its present or last known address, and the identity of the officers or other persons who own, operate, or control the entity;
  3. **Documents:** Means you must state the number of pages and nature of the document (e.g. letter or memorandum), its title, its date, the name or names of its authors and recipients, its present location and custodian, and if any such document was, but no longer is, in your possession or control, state what disposition was made of it, the date thereof, and the persons responsible for making the decision as to such disposition;
  4. **Communication:** Requires you, if any part of the communication was written, to identify the document or documents which refer to or evidence the communication and, to the extent that the communication was non-written, to identify each person participating in the communication and to state the date, manner, place, and substance of the communication; and
  5. **Activity:** Requires you to provide a description of each action, occurrence, transaction or conduct, the date it occurred, the location at which it occurred, and the identity of all persons involved.
- N. The term "**Claim File**" means the claim files and "field file(s)," whether kept in paper or electronic format, including but not limited to all documents, file jackets, file notes, claims diary or journal entries, log notes, handwritten notes, records of oral

communications, communications, correspondence, photographs, diagrams, estimates, reports, recommendations, invoices, memoranda and drafts of documents regarding the Claim.

- O. The term "**Underwriting File**" means the entire file, including all documents and information used for underwriting purposes even if you did not rely on such documents or information in order to make a decision regarding insuring Plaintiff's Property.

#### **NOTICE OF AUTHENTICATION**

You are advised that pursuant to Tex. R. Civ. P. 193.7, Plaintiff intends to use all documents exchanged and produced between the parties, including but not limited to correspondence and discovery responses during the trial of the above-entitled and numbered cause.

**INTERROGATORIES TO DEFENDANT TRAVELERS**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 1:**

Identify all persons answering or supplying any information in answering these interrogatories.

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 2:**

Identify all persons who were involved in evaluating Plaintiff's claim and provide the following information for each person you identify:

- a. their name and job title(s) as of the Date of Loss;
- b. their employer; and
- c. description of their involvement with Plaintiff's Claim.

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 3:**

If you contend that the some or all of the damages to the Property were not covered losses under the Policy, describe:

- a. the scope, cause and origin of the damages you contend are not covered losses under the Policy; and
- b. the term(s) or exclusion(s) of the Policy you relied upon in support of your decision regarding the Claim.

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 4:**

State whether the initial estimate you issued was revised or reconciled, and if so, state what was changed and who did it.

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 5:**

If you contend that Plaintiff did not provide you with requested information that was required to properly evaluate Plaintiff's Claim, identify the information that was requested and not provided, and the dates you made those request(s).

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 6:**

If you contend that Plaintiff's acts or omissions voided, nullified, waived or breached the Policy in any way, state the factual basis for your contention(s).

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 7:**

If you contend that Plaintiff failed to satisfy a condition precedent or covenant of the Policy in any way, state the factual basis for your contention(s).

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 8:**

Identify the date you first anticipated litigation.

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 9:**

State the factual basis for each of your affirmative defenses.

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 10:**

If you contend that Plaintiff failed to provide proper notice of the claim made the basis of this lawsuit, describe how the notice was deficient, and identify any resulting prejudice.

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 11:**

If you contend that Plaintiff failed to mitigate damages, describe how Plaintiff failed to do so, and identify any resulting prejudice.

**ANSWER:**

**INTERROGATORY NO. 12:**

Identify all items on the claim made the basis of this Lawsuit to which Defendant applied depreciation, stating for each item the criteria used and the age of the item.

**ANSWER:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION TO TRAVELERS**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 1**

Produce a certified copy of all Policies you issued to Plaintiff for the Property that were in effect on the Date of Loss.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 2**

If you contend that any prior claims Plaintiff submitted for damages to the Property affected your decision in relation to the Claim at issue, produce a certified copy of all policies you issued to Plaintiff for the Property that were in effect during the handling of those claim(s).

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 3**

Produce a copy of the declarations pages you issued for the Property in the three (3) years preceding the Date of Loss.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 4**

Produce your complete Underwriting File for Plaintiff's policy of insurance with you.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 5**

Produce the complete Claim File including all documents and communications regarding the Claim.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 6**

Produce the Claim Files regarding the Claim of any third-party you hired and/or retained to investigate, consult on, handle and/or adjust the Claim.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 7**

If you contend that any prior claims Plaintiff submitted for damages to the Property affected your decision in relation to the Claim at issue, produce the complete Claim File regarding those prior claim(s).

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 8**

Produce all documents Plaintiff (or any other person) provided to you related to the Claim or the Property.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 9**

Produce all documents you provided to Plaintiff (or any other person) related to the Claim or the Property.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 10**

Produce all documents (including reports, surveys, appraisals, damage estimates, proof of loss, or adjuster's report(s)) referring to the Claim, the Property or damage to the Property.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 11**

Produce color copies of all visual reproductions of the Property taken either prior to, at the time of, or after the Date of Loss (including diagrams, drawings, photographs, video records, videotapes, or other information).

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 12**

The file from the office of Plaintiff's insurance agent concerning Plaintiff's Property.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 13**

Produce all communications between any of your claims personnel, claims handlers, field adjusters, office adjusters, and their direct or indirect supervisors related to the investigation, handling, and settlement of Plaintiff's Claim.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 14**

Produce all written communications you sent to, or received from, any independent adjusters, engineers, contractors, estimators, consultants or other third-parties who participated in investigating, handling, consulting on, and/or adjusting Plaintiff's Claim.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 15**

Produce all written and/or electronic communications you sent to, or received from, Plaintiff's insurance agent related to the Claim, the Property, the Plaintiff or this Lawsuit.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 16**

Produce all written and/or electronic communications you sent to, or received from, any local, state, or governmental entity related to the Claim, the Property, the Plaintiff or this Lawsuit.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 17**

Produce all written and/or electronic communications you sent to, or received, from Plaintiff and/or any other named insured on the Policy related to the Claim, the Property, or this Lawsuit.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 18**

Produce the personnel file for anyone you (or an adjusting firm) assigned to participate in evaluating damage to Plaintiff's Property, including performance reviews/evaluations. This request is limited to the three (3) years prior to the Date of Loss and one (1) year after the Date of Loss.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 19**

Produce your claim handling manual(s) (including operating guidelines) in effect on the Date of Loss related to your claims practices, procedures and standards for property losses and/or wind and hail storm claims, for persons handling claims on your behalf.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 20**

Produce your property claims training manual and materials in effect on the Date of Loss, for persons handling, investigating and adjusting claims.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 21**

Produce all bulletins, notices, directives, memoranda, internal newsletters, publications, letters and alerts directed to all persons acting on your behalf that were issued from six (6) months before and after the Date of Loss related to the handling of wind or hail storm claims in connection with the storm at issue.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 22**

Produce the contract(s), agreement(s) and/or written understanding(s) with any independent adjusters or adjusting firms who you retained to investigate, handle and/or adjust Plaintiff's Claim on your behalf that were in effect on the Date of Loss.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 23**

Produce the contract(s), agreement(s) and/or written understanding(s) with any engineers and/or engineering firms you retained to investigate, handle and/or adjust Plaintiff's Claim on your behalf that were in effect at the time of his/her investigation, handling and/or adjustment of Plaintiff's claim, either pre or post-lawsuit.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 24**

Produce the "Pay sheet," "Payment Log," or list of payments made on Plaintiff's Claim, including all indemnity, claim expenses and payments made to third-parties.

**RESPONSE:**



**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 25**

Produce all billing statements, including billing detail, showing the amounts you paid or for which you were billed by any independent adjusters or adjusting firms who inspected Plaintiff's Property in connection with the Claim.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 26**

Produce all billing detail showing the amounts you paid or for which you were billed by any engineer and/or engineering firm who inspected Plaintiff's Property in connection with the Claim, whether pre or post-lawsuit.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 27**

Produce all estimates, reports or memoranda, including drafts of the same, created for you or by any independent adjusters or adjusting firms in connection with the Claim.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 28**

Produce all estimates, reports, or memoranda, including drafts of the same, created for you by any engineers and/or engineering firms in connection with the Claim.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 29**

Produce all statements given by anyone, oral or written, to you or any of your agents, related to Plaintiff's Claim and/or any issue in Plaintiff's live petition

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 30**

Pursuant to the applicable rules of evidence, produce all documents evidencing conviction of a crime which you intend to use as evidence to impeach any party or witness.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 31**

Produce all documents you identified, referred to, or relied upon in answering Plaintiff's interrogatories.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 32**

Produce all non-privileged documents you identified, referred to, or relied upon in developing, answering and/or formulating your Answer and/or Affirmative Defenses to Plaintiff's live petition.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 33**

Produce copies of all documents you intend to offer as evidence at the trial of this matter.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 34**

Produce copies of all documents relating to your declaration of the storm alleged to have caused damage to Plaintiff's Property as a "catastrophe."

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 35**

Produce copies of your engagement letter/fee agreement between you (or whatever entity or person is paying your attorney's fee bills) and your attorneys in this matter.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 36**

Produce copies of your attorney's[s'] fee bills in this matter.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 37**

If this claim involves reinsurance, produce copies of the policy or agreement pertaining to that reinsurance.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 38**

If an attorney was involved in evaluating payment or coverage of Plaintiff's Claim pre-suit, provide all documents relating to that evaluation or recommendation.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSIONS TO TRAVELERS**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 1:**

Admit that on Date of Loss the Property sustained damages caused by a windstorm.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 2:**

Admit that on Date of Loss the Property sustained damages caused by a hailstorm

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 3:**

Admit that as of the Date of Loss the Policy was in full force and effect.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 4:**

Admit that as of the Date of Loss all premiums were fully satisfied under the Policy.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 5:**

Admit that the Policy is a replacement cost value policy.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 6:**

Admit that the Policy is an actual cash value policy.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 7:**

Admit that aside from the Claim at issue, Plaintiff has never previously submitted a claim to you for damage to the Property.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 8:**

Admit that you did not request a Sworn Proof of Loss from Plaintiff in connection with the Claim at issue.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 9:**

Admit that you did not request a Sworn Proof of Loss from any other named insured on the Policy in connection with the Claim at issue.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 10:**

Admit that Plaintiff timely submitted the Claim.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 11:**

Admit that your decision to deny or partially deny Plaintiff's Claim was made in whole or in part on the basis that third parties were responsible for causing damages to the Property.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 12:**

Admit that Defendant's decision to deny or partially deny Plaintiff's Claim was made in whole or in part on the basis that the claimed damages are not covered by the Policy.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 13:**

Admit that Defendant's decision to deny or partially deny Plaintiff's Claim was made in whole or in part on the timeliness of the Claim's submission.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 14:**

Admit that you depreciated the costs of labor when determining the actual cash value of the Claim at issue.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 15:**

Admit that the adjuster assigned to investigate the Claim did not review the underwriting file at any time during the adjustment of the Claim.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 16:**

Admit that the Claim was reviewed by persons other than people who actually inspected the Property.

**RESPONSE:**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 17:**

Admit that you reinsured the risk under Plaintiff's Policy.

**RESPONSE:**

**CERTIFIED MAIL®**



**ANNIE REBECCA ELLIOTT**

District Clerk  
Fort Bend County, Texas  
301 Jackson  
Richmond, Texas 77469

Physical: 1422 Eugene Heimann Circle  
Richmond, Texas 77469

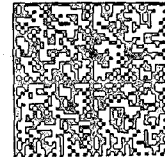
**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

Penalty for Private Use



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**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**



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THE TRAVELERS HOME AND MARINE INSURANC  
C/O CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY  
211 EAST 7TH STREET SUITE 620  
AUSTIN, TX 78701-3218

**CAUSE NO. 17-DCV-244353**

<b>BLAKE PRESENT</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF</b>
	<b>§</b>	
<b>VS.</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS</b>
	<b>§</b>	
<b>THE TRAVELERS HOME AND</b>	<b>§</b>	
<b>MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY</b>	<b>§</b>	
<b>AND RUSH ELLEDGE SUESSMAN</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>400TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT</b>

**DEFENDANTS' ORIGINAL ANSWER**

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COME NOW, The Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company and Rush Suessman, the defendants in the above entitled and numbered cause, and file this their original answer to the plaintiff's original petition on file herein, and in support thereof would respectfully show the Court as follows:

I.

The defendants hereby generally deny the allegations contained in the plaintiff's petition on file herein pursuant to Rule 92 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, and thus assert their privilege of insisting that such allegations be proven by a preponderance of credible evidence.

II.

Pursuant to Rule 193.7 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, the defendants notify all parties to this lawsuit of the defendants' intent to introduce as evidence at any pretrial proceeding or at trial any document produced by any party in discovery in this lawsuit.

III.

The defendants specifically reserve the right to amend their answer to plead any affirmative defenses or other matters that must be specially pled and to assert any



counterclaims or third-party claims they may have after discovery in this case is complete.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the defendants, The Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company and Russ Suessman, move and pray the Court that upon trial hereof, the plaintiff recover nothing, and that the defendants go hence with their costs, and for such other and further relief, both general and special, legal and equitable, to which the defendants may show themselves justly entitled to receive.

Respectfully submitted,

ORGAIN BELL & TUCKER, LLP  
P O Box 1751  
Beaumont, TX 77704-1751  
(409) 838-6412  
(409) 838-6959 facsimile

/s/ Greg C. Wilkins

Greg C. Wilkins  
State Bar No. 00797669  
gcw@obt.com  
Warren B. Wise  
State Bar No. 24093437  
wwise@obt.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS,  
THE TRAVELERS HOME AND  
MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY  
AND RUSS SUESSMAN

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that on the 18th day of September, 2017, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Fort Bend County District Clerk via eFile Texas which will send notification of such filing to each counsel of record.

/s/ Greg C. Wilkins

Greg C. Wilkins